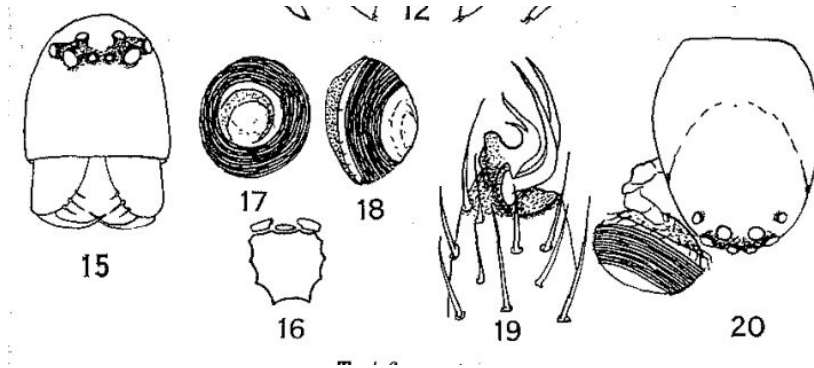


Butler, L. S. G. (1932). Studies in Australian spiders. No. 2. Proceedings of the Royal Society of Victoria 44: 103-117

Genus *Plectochetos*, gen. nov.



Eyes eight, heterogeneous, in two rows of four, both lines recurved. Clypeus steep and high. Tarsi three clawed, smooth, inferior claw one large tooth. Abdomen covered with a dorsal scuta; spinnerets surrounded with a chitinized circular wall. Tarsi of male pedipalp very large and globular, ejaculatory duct extremely long and spirally wound around the outer edge.

Genotype. *P. longissimus*.

PLETOCHETOS LONGISSIMUS, gen. et sp. nov.

Male.

Total length 0.94 mm, Length of cephalothorax 0.4 mm. Breadth of cephalothorax 0.36 mm. Length of abdomen 0.54 mm: Breadth of abdomen 0.6 mm. · Height of cephalothorax (front view) 0.28 mm. Length of chelicera 0.12 mm. Width of ocular area 0.24 mm. Diameter of tarsal bulb on pedipalp .26 mm

Cephalothorax - Longer than broad; oval, truncated at rear. Frontal view of cephalothorax, sides nearly straight to eyes then curving to vertex. Ocular area high. Clypeus steep, vertical, wider than high. Head strongly convex, situated well above the thorax and sloping down abruptly to the cervical groove. Thorax much lower, lightly convex.

Eyes.-Eight, evenly spread in two rows of four, both lines recurved, hyaline, glistening, surrounded with dark pigment. Laterals largest, slightly oval. Diameter of eyes AME .02 mm PME 0.04mm ALE 0.05mm PLE 0.05mm. Separation of eyes PME. 0.04 mm, AME 0.015 mm, PME and PLE 0.03 mm. ALE and PLE 0.03 mm. ALE and PLE 0.01mm

Chelicera -Small, smooth, superior margin furnished with a few strong spines. Claw of chelicera, medium, curved, and evenly tapered.

Labium - Small, broader than long.

Endites.-Small, broader than long, tapering in front of the labium.

Sternum - longer than broad; front broadest, tapering a little to the posterior edge, which is wide and recurved.

Pedipalps.-Short, ending with an extremely large globular bulb. The cymbium is semi-elliptical; the upper two-thirds of the bulb spirally grooved for the reception of the ejaculatory duct. This duct is exceptionally long and consists of about twenty turns, attached at the centre and entirely free elsewhere. This coiled duct can be pulled out in the manner of a spring, and when released it snaps back into its correct position on the grooved conductor. The duct is translucent, revealing a central channel throughout its entire length.

Legs - Short and nimble. Three claws are present; superior claws smooth, long and evenly tapered; inferior claw short, thick and dentated with one large tooth Formula, 4, 3, 1, 2.

Table

Leg.	Coxa.	Trochanter.	Femur.	Patella.	Tibia.	Metatarsus.	Tarsus.	Total Length.	
1	..	•08	•04	•20	•14	•32	•08	•20	1•06
2	..	•08	•04	•22	•12	•28	•09	•22	1•05
3	..	•08	•06	•26	•12	•30	•10	•20	1•12
4	..	•08	•06	•32	•12	•30	•10	•20	1•18

Abdomen - Obovate, nearly circular. Spinnerets visible from above. Dorsal scuta present. Ventral epigastric plate with lateral edges curved, posterior edge slightly recurved with blunted projections each end.

Epigynum -Simple, no detail visible.

Spinnerets - Very short, surrounded by a chitinized circular wall.

Co1ulus ~ Wanting.

Colour in alcohol - Cephalothorax yellow-brown, with darker markings especially at the ocular area.

Legs, chelicera, yellowbrown. Pedipalps yellow-brown; ejaculatory duct very dark brown. Abdomen dorsal scuta yellow-brown, edges darker. Ventral epigastric Plate rich brown; soft connecting integument ornamented with dark dotted ridges or bands.

Type locality -Mt. Donna Buang, 4,080 feet, near Warburton,

Victoria. February, 1931. Under logs and similar places.

(C. Oke.)

The female is unknown.